

# EXPLORATION TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

July 11, 2006

TO: Internal Files

FROM: Stephen J. Demczak, Environmental Scientist/Engineering, Team Lead

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RE: Minor Exploration, Consolidation Coal Company, Hidden Valley Mine,  
C/015/007, Task ID #2604

## SUMMARY:

The permittee (Consolidation Coal Co.) has submitted a Letter of Intent to conduct minor exploration at the Hidden Valley. Consol has plans to drill nine holes in Section 17 and 18 of Township 23, Range 6 East, SLBM. The surface is owned by Consol and the coal is leased by Consol. The applicant will remove less than 250 tons of coal.

The permittee plans to conduct exploration on August 15, 2006, and plans to complete the project by December 15, 2006.

## EXPLORATION TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

## COMPLIANCE DUTIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202.

## OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202-100.

## Analysis:

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### Roads

The permittee will use existing roads. These roads are located on Consol property. Some upgrading of the roads maybe required for equipment access. No new roads will be constructed.

### Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## RECLAMATION STANDARDS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202-200.

### Analysis:

#### Approximate original contour

The permittee has stated that each drill site will be reclaimed graded to approximate original contour. The applicant will disturb and grade a minimum amount of area for the drill project. Some road improvements will take place for equipment transportation. Some drill site will require leveling of the drill rigs. All equipment, facilities and trash will be removed once drilling is completed. No facilities will be left after exploration.

#### Boreholes

The permittee plans to reclaim all boles by cementing from ground level to the bottom of the drill hole. A brass tag will be placed in the top of the cement plug.

#### Facilities and Equipment

The applicant will remove all equipment once drilling is completed. There will be no facilities after drill.

### Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.15;R645-203.

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### **Analysis:**

The applicant has request that the cultural information be kept away from the public.

### **Findings:**

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The applicant has met the minimum requirements for conducting minor exploration. This Letter of Intent is recommended for approval.

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